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Our 1998 Goofball of The Year Award

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SPORTS FINAL

Wrestlers return to action

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Fight winter blahs with new movies

Entertainment

Granite City PRESS-RECORD

VOLUME 97, NUMBER 1

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 1999

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Annexation battle heads to trial court

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A suit challenging several annexations by the city of Madison is headed either to trial in St. Clair County or to an appellate court.

The suit — filed by David Bone of the St. Clair County State's Attorney's office — is the opening shot in what could become a long and bitter series of court battles over annexation in that area.

The suit challenges a series of annexations in that county by the city over several years. At stake is which municipality — Madison or Fairmont City — would have access to annex major portions of the former village of National City, including the old St. Louis National Stockyards.

In addition, Fairmont City annexed the stockyards, property belonging to the Terminal Railroad Association.

See BATTLE, Page 3A

Winter weather could hit again

Warming not expected to last

By Becky Garrison
Staff writer

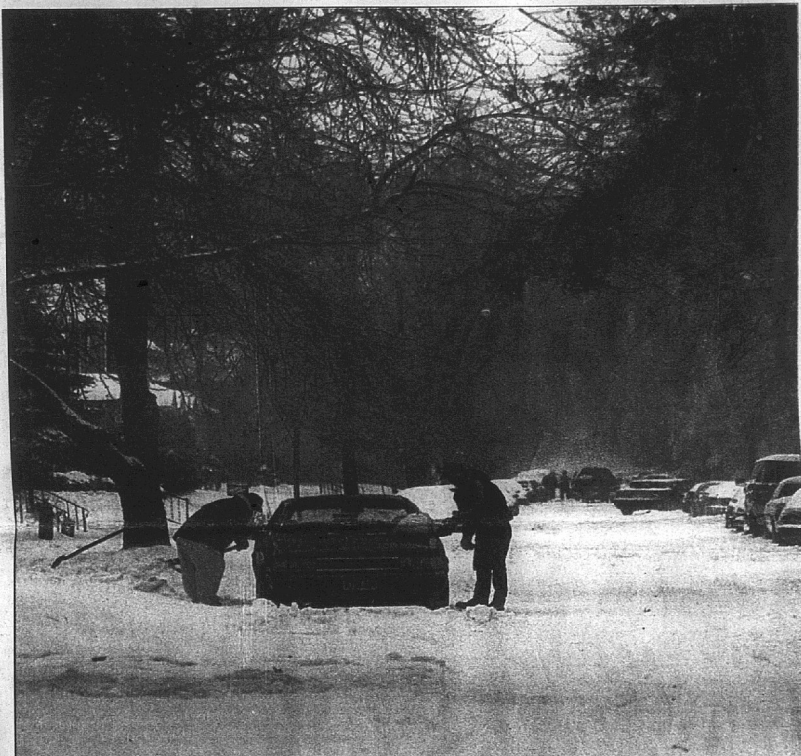
Schools are back in session and streets are starting to clear off, and a warming trend today and tomorrow is expected to melt away even more snow.

However, temperatures will be going down again this weekend, bringing the chance of more snow.

After a short break, Illinois Department of Transportation workers were expected to begin bracing for the area's next bout with foul weather.

Kent Muskopf, IDOT operations engineer, said his crews were spending time Wednesday doing touch-up work from the last storm and preparing their equipment for

(See WEATHER, Page 3A)



SCOTT COUSINS/Press-Record

Winter paradise (?)

Granite City residents Joe Barron and Brian Porlco try to dig a car out of the snow and ice that fell on the Tri-Cities over New Year's weekend. Some eight inches of snow and ice were delivered as a New Year's present from Mother Nature to area residents, who then had to cope with high winds and frigid temperatures. For more scenes of the year's first winter storm, see People, page 1C.

First baby arrives despite storm

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

It wasn't quite on New Year's Day, but the first baby to be born this year in St. Elizabeth Medical Center arrived in spite of the weekend snowstorm.

Samuel Edward Brown Jr., the son of Granite City residents Nikol Martin, 28, and Samuel Brown, arrived at 6:52 a.m. Jan. 2. Samuel Jr. weighed in at 5 pounds, 9 ounces.

"I'm pretty sore, but I feel good," his mother said.

Samuel will join older brother Mickey, 4, and sister Chyenne, 19 months.

For the hospital, the first baby of the year is one of two special occasions — the other being Mother's

Day.

"We always blow up some balloons and give the baby a nice layette," said hospital spokesman John Mohl.

"We order some flowers and have them brought in; oftentimes, those flowers are donated by local merchants."

"In this case, Floral Originals donated the flowers and Glik's donated the layette set," he said.

Mohl said that the maternity wing of the hospital has been undergoing renovations for the past two-and-a-half years.

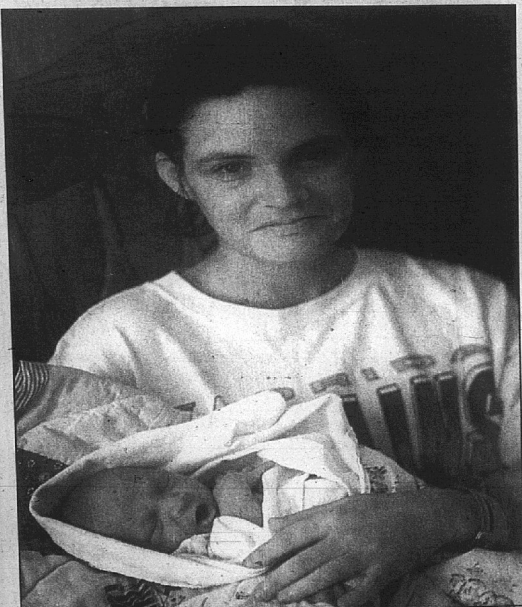
"We started with our birthing suites," he said. "Those suites allow mothers to spend more time with their newborns."

"We moved from that to renovating all the other rooms," he said. "We

have a brand new nursery, a nursing station and our new Caesarian operating room."

He said the hospital has also been adding "a lot" of doctors in obstetrics.

"We find that this is an area that really needs this sort of service," he said.



SCOTT COUSINS/Press-Record

Nikol Martin of Granite City holds her newborn son, Samuel Brown Jr., at St. Elizabeth Medical Center Saturday afternoon. Brown was the first baby born in 1999 at SEMC, arriving at 6:52 a.m. Saturday, nearly 31 hours into the new year. He joins a brother and sister. Martin was awarded gifts of flowers and gift certificates for being the mother of the New Year's baby in Granite City.

Granite City man pleads guilty in robbery plots

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

Brett L. Nash fancies himself a makeup artist, and where he's going, he'll have plenty of time to be creative.

The Granite City man faces up to 20 years in prison for his part in a Troy home invasion that featured three other suspects using BB guns and wearing latex masks made by

to the Oct. 7, 1997, home invasion, as well as to armed robbery of the Leather and Lace store in Madison the same day. Nash's trial was scheduled to begin Tuesday.

Nash is the last of the suspects to plead guilty in both cases and was the purported mastermind behind both, police said.

In the Madison armed robbery, Nash drove the getaway vehicle and made the mask worn during the rob-

(See NASH, Page 3A)

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Madison man charged after domestic dispute

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A local man is in custody at the Madison County Jail after being charged with a variety of crimes following a domestic disturbance in the city of Madison in which he allegedly threatened a former girlfriend with a knife and burning newspapers and tried to ram her car.

Bobby S. Hyde, 22, who gave an address in the 2200 block of North 39th Street in East St. Louis, but was also living in the 1900 block of Harris in Madison, was charged Tuesday with one count of unlawful restraint by the Madison County State's Attorney's office.

Hyde also faces misdemeanor charges of reckless conduct, criminal damage to property, disorderly conduct, operating an uninsured motor vehicle,

reckless driving and leaving the scene of an accident.

The incident started Saturday when Hyde and a woman he had been living with in Madison broke up, according to Lt. Steve Shelby. The woman left and went out with a former boyfriend while Hyde apparently spent the day watching football and drinking with friends. He then allegedly went looking for the woman and found her with the former boyfriend in a car.

Hyde allegedly attempted to ram the car, then left the scene. The woman reported the incident to police, then left to go to a girlfriend's house. Police were unable to locate Hyde, but he apparently found the woman again and attempted to ram her.

The woman again reported the incident to police and decided to go home. Hyde's

vehicle was not there, so she went into the house but discovered Hyde in the basement.

Shelby said he then allegedly kept her trapped downstairs and threatened her with a knife and burning newspapers.

The woman was able to calm Hyde down, and at about 8:30 a.m., she was able to attract the attention of two officers who came to the house regarding the previous night's incidents.

Hyde was placed under arrest and was transferred to the Madison County Jail Wednesday morning.

Woman killed in I-64 crash

Six others injured in separate accident

By Nicole Vaughn
Staff writer

One person was killed and six others were injured overnight Tuesday in two separate accidents.

According to the Illinois State Police, Paula B. Stewart, 45, of Anna, was killed at 3:10 p.m. Tuesday when her Mitsubishi Gallant crashed on westbound Interstate 64, a quarter-mile east of Interstate 255.

A report said that Stewart was westbound on I-64 when she hit a snow drift between the two interstates, throwing her car out of control. The car went airborne, struck pavement on the other side

of the road and rolled over. It came to rest on its roof on the shoulder of the road. No other cars were involved.

A second accident at 2:07 a.m. Wednesday sent six people to the hospital.

It occurred on northbound I-255 near the Moussette Lane exit outside Cahokia.

A Toyota Corolla driven by Eric Loston, 19, of East St. Louis, left the roadway and went into a ditch. According to ISP, the car made two complete roll-overs before coming to rest upright in a creekbed.

Loston and Lancel Fowler, 19, a passenger, were both taken to Memorial Hospital in Belleville, where both were admitted. Loston was listed in fair condition and Fowler was still being evaluated.

Four other passengers were taken to area hospitals. Derrick Loston, 18, Shannon Williams, 16, and Alyshia Berry were all taken to Touchette Regional Hospital in Centerville and Cedric Loston, 21, was taken to St. Mary's Hospital in East St. Louis.

Their conditions were not available Wednesday.

Edwardsville murder investigation continuing

By Steve Whitworth
Staff writer

Police said Monday they were continuing their investigation into last month's fatal shooting of an Edwardsville man whose body was found in his car.

Michael Kafka, 30, was found shot to death Dec. 22 in the car, which was parked in the driveway of his home in the 1400 block of Madison Avenue.

Edwardsville Director of Police Bennett Dickmann said Monday he believed the detectives from his department and the Illinois State Police who are investigating Kafka's killing eventually will solve the case.

Police said they received a 911 call from Kafka's wife,

Michelle, at 8:44 p.m. Dec. 22. Emergency personnel found Michael Kafka's body sitting in the front passenger seat of his car, which was parked in the driveway of the family's home. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.

Kafka had been shot in the heart with a gun of mid-sized caliber and died immediately, police have said. The bullet was recovered, and ballistics tests are being performed.

Dickmann also said Monday that the weekend theft of a pickup truck belonging to Kafka's father-in-law didn't appear to be related to the killing.

The incident occurred at 6:12 p.m. Friday, when the man left his pickup truck running with the keys in the ignition.

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PEOPLE

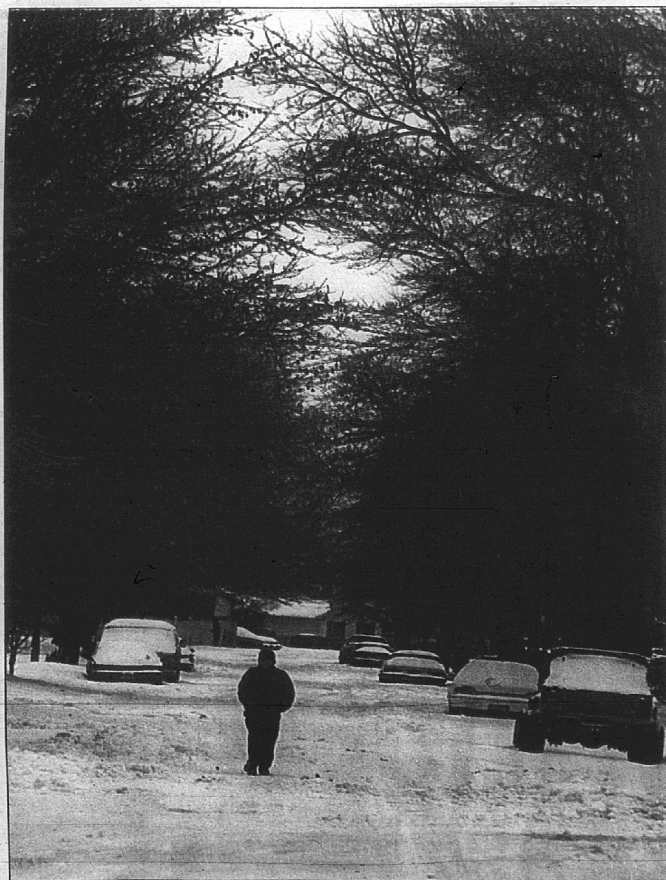
Far right: Three-year-old Nathaniel Pulliam chases his big sister Shania, 6, with a hunk of snow. Right, after catching Shania, Nathaniel starts throwing more snow at her.



HAPPY SNOW YEAR!



A New Year's storm dropped about 8 inches of snow and ice in the Tri-City area. Clockwise from above: Lydia Waugh, 13, shovels snow on Idaho Street...Tom Williams walks toward a bus stop on his way to work...Mike Hoffman cleans off cars at Gitcho's Gas and Cars.



Photos by Scott Cousins and Tim Stephenson

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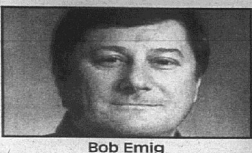
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Bob Emig

College's BCS inferior to NFL playoffs

Football fans often are asked: "Do you like the pro game or the college game better?"

At least for this holiday season, I would have to say I liked the pro game better. To me, the National Football League's wild card weekend was more enjoyable to watch than the non-stop action of the college bowl variety. Going into the games, you had better storylines in the NFL than you did in the college games. Maybe, with the new setup with the Bowl Championship Series, the suspense was taken out of the college games. For all intents and purposes, you knew the winner of Monday night's Fiesta Bowl would be declared the national champion. And so it was. By beating Florida State in the Fiesta Bowl, Tennessee became college football's No. 1 team for the 1998 season.

By contrast, the NFL had plenty of suspense built into its wild card weekend.

Do two of the league's powers — San Francisco and Green Bay — have enough magic left to make another run to a title?

At least San Francisco has another week left, as the Steve Young-led 49ers snuck by Green Bay on a touchdown in the last three seconds of the game. Young's late heroics negated similar heroics by Packers QB Brett Favre.

Doug Flutie was on center stage in the Buffalo-Miami game. Can the little man, a star in the Canadian Football League, become a star in the NFL?

The Bills gave the Dolphins all they could handle before the game was decided when Flutie fumbled while attempting to pass. So, now the attention goes to Dolphins QB Dan Marino. Can the veteran finally win a Super Bowl?

And then there were the Arizona Cardinals. Long-suffering St. Louis Cardinals fans still have an attachment to the Big Red, probably more so, given the state of the St. Louis Rams. Can the upstart Cardinals knock off their longtime nemesis, the Dallas Cowboys?

The Cardinals did it in convincing fashion, beating the once-proud Cowboys for their first playoff victory since 1947. Again, the quarterbacks were the main focus. Jake Plummer, while not sensational, outplayed the more seasoned Troy Aikman.

Probably, because you're more familiar with the NFL players, you didn't have the same attachment or feeling about the college bowl games. The new format confused a lot of people, myself included. Only the Rose Bowl matched two teams — the Big Ten (Wisconsin) and the Pac Ten (UCLA) champions — that we've grown accustomed to seeing representing their conferences.

Where was a Nebraska, Colorado or Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl?

Instead, we got Florida and Syracuse in one of the top mismatches of the bowl season. In the Sugar Bowl, where was a Southeastern Conference team? No, it was Ohio State against Texas A&M.

The BCS may have been the first step in a lot of people's minds about settling the question of "Who's No. 1?"

But who cares if there is a split championship, like last year when Michigan and Nebraska shared college football's top prize?

I think that's more intriguing to a lot of fans than having a clear-cut choice that was presented by the Fiesta Bowl. The other major bowls — Rose, Sugar and Orange — now become secondary bowls in a lot of people's minds. Also, if the Fiesta Bowl was for the national championship — a one-game playoff, if you will — then why wasn't Florida State voted No. 2 in both the coaches' and writers' final polls instead of Ohio State?

There's probably no denying undefeated Tennessee deserves the No. 1 ranking this year. More people would have been convinced, though, if the Volunteers had beaten Ohio State in the Fiesta Bowl rather than matching up with Florida State and its beleaguered third-string quarterback.

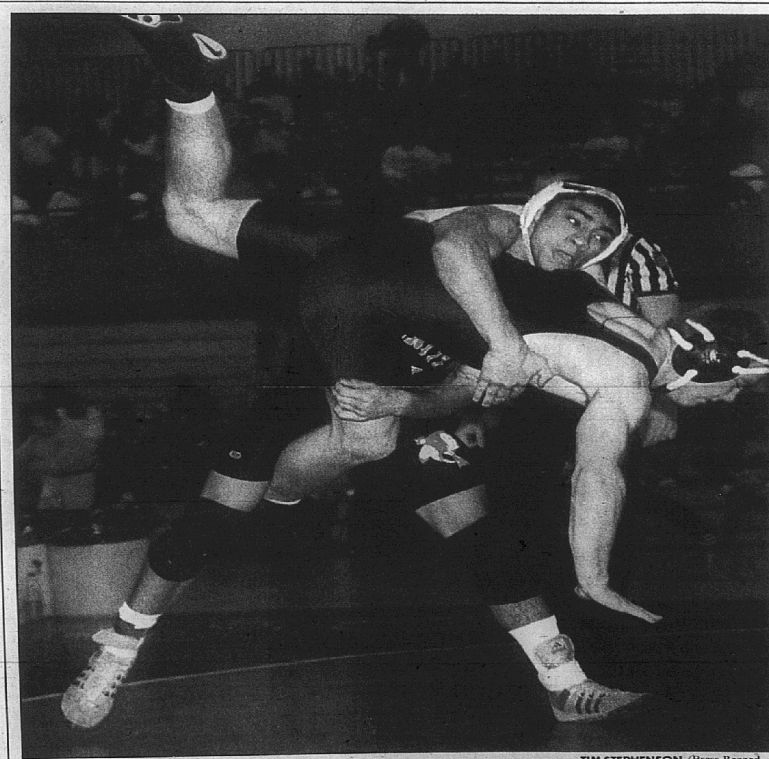
Maybe the college folks need to take a lesson from the pros. A more comprehensive playoff system needs to be organized. Have at least four teams in a playoff format to determine the national championship.

For at least this year, I prefer the NFL playoffs to the BCS.



Granite City junior Jess Wallace is the primary perimeter shooter the Warriors, who took a 9-7 record into Wednesday's game.

TIM STEPHENSON / Press-Record



TIM STEPHENSON / Press-Record

Back in action

Granite City 152-pound wrestler Brooks Narvaez won a championship last week at the William "Red" Schmitt Holiday Wrestling Tournament. The Warriors return to action Friday at home against Belleville East and travel to the Morton Tournament on Saturday.

Wallace guns down opposition

Granite City junior guard provides steady scoring for rejuvenated Warriors

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Like the least misanthropic of the "Magnificent Seven," junior Jessica Wallace makes her living gunning from the outside.

This rifleman — along with Debra Aaron, Jan Shanafelt, Erika Todd and a strong bench — has led the Granite City girls basketball program out of the dark ages of last year's three-win season and toward a renaissance.

"I think we all make each other better," Wallace said. "If we don't play selfish and we just drop it to whoever is open, it makes it better for everyone. Sometimes we get selfish and we want to shoot the ball, whether we are open or not. I think if we play as a team and get it to the open person instead of forcing shots in there, we should all be pretty good."

"Jess is our most consistent player by far," Granite City coach John Moad said. "We can basically go in and pencil her in for 12 or 13 points and six to eight rebounds per game. She is a very good athlete. She is very competitive and you know exactly what you are going to get when she goes out there — you are going to get 100 percent. She's just very consistent. She's not a flashy player, but when you get to the end of the game, you know that her points are going to be there. You don't have to hope that she puts it up because she is going to do it. Other teams have to pay attention to Jess Wallace. If we need to get the ball to somebody in a pressure situation and she needs to know what to do with it, it's Jess Wallace. We are going to try to get her the ball."

"She's the most consistent shooter that we have. She has been right around the 50-percent mark all season and that's exceptional for high school basketball. If you can shoot 50 percent you are going to do well."

One of the ways Wallace sharpened her skills was in her own backyard against her brother, varsity freshman Teddy.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

"We have a hoop in our backyard, so I go out there and shoot," Wallace said. "I play against my brother and that helps me. He's good, but I can beat him."

"I just practice a lot and that helps. All my cousins played growing up so I played against them and I played on a couple of AAU teams. That's a lot of competition that has made me better. It prepares you for high school basketball."

Wallace has improved on her sophomore numbers.

"Last year I had a pretty good season," she said. "This year I started off kind of slow, but the last couple of games I've been picking it up and averaging about 13 points a game. That's pretty good, but I can probably get a couple points higher."

"She has improved with each year," Moad said. "She has improved her scoring, her shooting percentage, her range. She is stepping out and hitting 3-pointers."

"We couldn't be happier with the way she has played. She may not have put up the statistics some of the other girls around here, but I guarantee you that other coaches are designing defenses to stop her when they play us. That's a credit to her. Every coach that I talk to asks how much longer Wallace is going to be with us. That's a compliment to her. She plays like a senior and she's earned that respect the coaches give her."

"Jess does everything well," Moad added. "She plays defense, she rebounds, she can score. There is not a part of her game that she doesn't do well."

"For us to be successful, she has got to shoot the ball 10 to 15 times each game. I think the girls are starting to realize that. The other teams are designing defenses to stop her, so that is making it even more difficult to get her the ball. She is the

(See WALLACE, Page 2B)

Wrestling provides strong bond for Garland brothers

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

The Garlands found a family vocation in wrestling and they are becoming legendary on the Illinois high school scene.

Mike, 45, is the oldest of the three and has been the head coach at Granite City since 1987.

Steve, 42, is the head coach at Belleville-West and Greg, 37, heads the program at Belleville-Althoff. They have an older brother, Bobby, who chose the physical sport of hockey in lieu of a tangle on the mats.

The Garlands squared off last week at the 38th annual William "Red" Schmitt Holiday Wrestling Tournament at Granite City.

During their own halcyon high school days, everything else took a back seat to grappling.

"We would eat, sleep and drink wrestling," Steve said. "We would wrestle in the yard and we wrestled at the YMCA. We would tape the doors so we could come back after practice and wrestle some more."

"Oh, yeah," Mike confirmed. "We wore out I don't know how many cars."

(See GARLANDS, Page 3B)

"We wore out I don't know how many carpets in my mom and dad's living room. We wrestled all the time, out in the yard, down in the basement, upstairs in the living room."

Mike Garland

Granite City coach

SPORTS

BOYS BASKETBALL

BELLEVILLE EAST LANCERS

Overall record (10-3)
Coach: Doug McGrath

November	
28 Hazelwood (Mo.)	L 66-70
30 Patonville Tournament	
vs. Florissant (Mo.)	W 71-69
vs. St. Louis (St.)	W 47-58
vs. St. Louis Chaminade	W 73-63

December	
8 O'Fallon	W 64-58 (OT)
11 at Alton	W 81-59 (OT)
12 at Alton	W 71-67
16 Granite City	W 81-46
18 Belleville West	W 44-30
28-30 Collinsville Tournament	
vs. Jacksonville	W 73-56
29 vs. Oaklawn	W 66-76 (OT)
30 vs. Chatham Glenwood	W 67-57
30 vs. East St. Louis	L 51-76

January	
2 Edwardsville	8 p.m.
8 Collinsville	8 p.m.
12 East St. Louis	8 p.m.
15-23 Belleville East Tournament	
28 Alton	8 p.m.
30 Waterloo Shootout	
vs. Jefferson City (Mo.)	7:30 p.m.

February	
5 at Granite City	8 p.m.
11 at Edwardsville	8 p.m.
19 at Collinsville	8 p.m.
20 Belleville West	8 p.m.
26 at East St. Louis	8 p.m.

GRANITE CITY WARRIORS

Overall record (9-4)
Coach: John VanBuskirk

November	
23-25 at Alton Tournament	
vs. Springfield Lander	W 60-51
25 vs. Cahokia	W 74-69
27 at Alton	L 68-78
35 vs. Madison	W 44-40

December	
4 Edwardsville	W 55-56
4 at Triad	W 50-41
12 Belleville West	W 63-46
18 at Belleville East	L 48-61
19 Jersville	W 50-53
28-30 Collinsville Tournament	
vs. Chatham Glenwood	L 41-57
29 vs. Triad	W 67-54
30 vs. Jacksonville	W 55-49
30 vs. Springfield (Mo.)	L 37-56

January	
5 at Civic Memorial	8 p.m.
8 at East St. Louis	8 p.m.
16 Collinsville	8 p.m.
16 McClure North	8 p.m.
20-23 at Salem Tournament	8 p.m.

Wallace

(Continued from Page 1B)

type of player where if they come out and get in her face and take her away, she is going to get other people open shots.

Wallace has noticed the attention she receives from opposing defenses.

"I can try to cut somewhere or go backdoor, try to create an open spot for myself," she said. "So there are things I can do to get open."

No one associated with the Granite City Warriors likes to talk about last year's black winter. Instead, the Warriors entered this season as a team with a positive attitude. The Warriors are 9-7 now after back-to-back losses last week in the Nashville/Lebanon Holiday Classic resulted in a fourth-place finish.

In the first game this season, junior Della Moore made two free throws with 3.7 seconds to play in the fourth quarter to lift Granite City to a 38-56 victory against Civic Memorial in the Alton Tip-Off Classic.

"That was crazy," Wallace said. "It was a close game and Della got fouled and ended up making her free throws. That was a big lift for us. I think that lifted our spirits up and once we got to the regular season we just kept playing like a team."

"We got sick of losing every game (last year), so this year we stepped it up in tryouts. We

BELLEVILLE EAST LANCERS

Overall record (10-3)
Coach: Doug McGrath

February	
5 Belleville East	8 p.m.
12 at Belleville West	8 p.m.
18 East St. Louis	8 p.m.
20 at Collinsville	8 p.m.
23 Alton	8 p.m.

EAST ST. LOUIS FLYERS

Overall record (8-3)
Coach: Bennie Lewis

November	
25-28 Galesburg Tournament	
vs. Galesburg	W 70-61
27 vs. Aurora West	W 63-59
29 vs. Peoria Woodruff	W 66-44

December	
4 Collinsville	W 65-59
11 at Belleville West	L 43-45
16 Edwardsville	L 42-53
19 at Peoria Central	L 37-45
25-30 Collinsville Tournament	
28 vs. Madison	W 67-35
29 vs. O'Fallon	W 56-46
30 vs. Collinsville	W 57-47
30 vs. Belleville East	W 70-61

January	
8 Granite City	8 p.m.
11 at Belleville East	8 p.m.
19 at Collinsville	8 p.m.
30 Belleville West	8 p.m.

EDWARDSVILLE TIGERS

Overall record (4-1)
Coach: Mike Waldo

December	
4 at Granite City	L 55-56
11 Collinsville	W 54-39
15 at Jersville	W 62-52
18 at East St. Louis	W 64-51
19 at Taylorville	W 55-34
26-30 Charleston Tournament	
28 vs. Olney	8 p.m.

January	
2 at Belleville East	8 p.m.
8 Belleville West	8 p.m.
16 Cahokia	8 p.m.
20-23 at Salem Tournament	
28 Granite City	8 p.m.
30 at Collinsville	8 p.m.

February	
2 at Civic Memorial	8 p.m.
5 East St. Louis	8 p.m.
12 Belleville East	8 p.m.
19 Highland	8 p.m.
23 Triad	8 p.m.
29 at Alton	8 p.m.

"I think that she will get the recognition at the end of the year and that will lead to bigger things. She deserves it. She's a good player, one of the best players this school has ever had."

Granite City coach John Moad

about Jessica Wallace

were in a league over the summer. This year we are playing as a team where last year there was a lot of selfish, independent stuff. This year, it's different. We started off good in the Alton Tournament, we came out in second place in that."

The Warriors have leveled off somewhat lately, but they are still playing tough, especially in their Southwestern Conference game. After Wednesday's game in Collinsville, they were going to get a two-week break in the middle of January to recharge their batteries.

"We need to keep playing as a team, the way we started off the season," Wallace said. "We have kind of slowed down a little bit and got a little bit selfish again and a little bit sloppy. We can pick it up in practice and we will do better in the games."

Moad expects Wallace to be there, steady as ever, pouring in buckets.

"I wouldn't want to think about where we would be without her," Moad said. "We have improved and she is one of the main reasons for it. You can attribute a lot of our success to her. When she has a good game, we are right there. When she has a bad shooting

ALTHOFF CRUSADERS

Overall record (5-5)
Coach: Greg Leib

December	
1 at Mascoutah	L 50-70
4 at O'Fallon	L 52-61
5 Alton	L 58-60
11 Belleville East	L 56-61 (OT)
18 at Waterloo Gibault	W 60-55
22 Centralia	W 60-55
25 at Centralia	W 58-56
26 vs. Mascoutah	W 62-49
28 vs. Waterloo	W 58-56
28 vs. Mater Dei	W 57-45
29 vs. Oakville	L 52-57
30 vs. Carlyle	W 50-49

January	
5 Wesclin	8 p.m.
8 Freeburg	8 p.m.
12 at Lebanon	8 p.m.
15 Springfield Sacred Heart Griffin	8 p.m.
16 at Cahokia	8 p.m.
19-23 Belleville Tournament	
22 at Mt. Vernon	8 p.m.
23 at Mater Dei	8 p.m.

February	
5 at Highland	8 p.m.
6 Cape Central	8 p.m.
13 Belleville West	8 p.m.
16 at Belleville East	8 p.m.
19 at Oakville	8 p.m.

MADISON TROJANS

Overall record (1-8)
Coach: Al Collins

November	
24-28 Alton Tournament	
23 vs. Alton	L 48-75
27 vs. Cahokia	L 59-71
28 vs. Granite City	L 40-44
28 vs. Springfield	L 40-45

December	
4 St. Louis Berkeley	L 52-61
12 at Jersville	L 47-55
16 Collinsville Tournament	W 38-33
vs. East St. Louis	L 35-67
vs. Springfield Sacred Heart-Griffin	L 50-56

January	
5 at Florio	8 p.m.
8 at St. Louis Christian Academy	8 p.m.
9 at Centralia	8 p.m.
12 at St. Louis McCluer	8 p.m.
15 at Pittsfield	8 p.m.
16 at Hattsville (Wright City, Mo.)	8 p.m.
20 Lebanon	7:30 p.m.
30 at Gosport Valley	8 p.m.

February	
5 at Venice	7:30 p.m.

VENICE RED DEVILS

Overall record (5-5)
Coach: Clinton Harris

December	
1 at Freeburg	L 51-75
5 at Cahokia	L 54-66
8 at West Plains	W 63-52
12 St. Louis Summit	W 63-52
15 Duqu	W 78-71
18 at Livingston	W 73-50
26-30 Freeburg Tournament	
26 vs. Alton	W 47-39
28 vs. Marissa	W 64-37
29 at Alton (Mo.)	W 64-37
30 vs. Rasmussen	W 55-62

January	
5 at St. Louis Gateway Christian	7 p.m.
6 at St. Louis Gateway Tech	7 p.m.
12 Valley Park	7:30 p.m.
16 Belleville East	7:30 p.m.
19-23 at Sparta Tournament	
20 vs. Alton	7:30 p.m.
30 at Sparta	8:15 p.m.

night, you can see it in our game and we struggle. We rely on her a lot, maybe too much, but she is the kind of girl that just goes out and tries to do whatever we want her to do.

"I don't have enough good things to say about her. She does a lot of good things for us. I think that she will get the recognition at the end of the year and that will lead to bigger things. She deserves it. She's a good player, one of the best players this school has ever had."

"Next year, she is going to be one of the best players in our conference and that's saying something."

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Warriors end to rney flat

Lose 56-37 in consolation game

BOYS BASKETBALL

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

The Granite City Warriors got no consolation out of their final game in the Collinsville Tournament on Dec. 30.

The Warriors lost 56-37 to Springfield Sacred Heart-Griffin in the consolation championship game.

"I think that was our low game of the year so far," Granite City coach John VanBuskirk said. "I don't think anybody performed up to expectations or potential."

"We had everything going for us. We had an easy win this morning (against Jacksonville in the consolation semifinal). We played the early game, everything went our way."

"We just came out slow," Warriors guard Kevin Elliott said. "After the first game, everybody came out ready to play and we just went out thinking we could just show up and beat these guys, but they outlasted us."

"We didn't work hard enough to get open and they were playing a matchup zone and we weren't setting the picks on the right guys."

Everybody didn't really know what they were doing."

The Warriors trailed 27-15 after a lachluster opening half.

"We only had 10 shots in the first half," VanBuskirk said. "One point, we had six turnovers in seven possessions and we're down only 12 points. But you have to give Springfield credit. Every time we made a run and got within nine or 10 points, they pushed it back to 14. They had the best player on the floor (Modibo Nankake) and he showed it."

"They were trying to keep us out of the lane and we weren't very aggressive with the basketball. They play a matchup zone and we didn't do a very good job against it. It's my fault, their fault, everybody's fault."

VanBuskirk didn't think playing four tournament games in three days contributed to the Warriors' lethargy.

"That's an excuse that I won't accept," he said.

"I think that was our low game of the year so far. I don't think anybody performed up to expectations or potential."

John VanBuskirk
Coach

"That's just not right. They should have been more tired than we were. We are in good enough shape and we had the advantage. They played the late game and we played the early game, so that was to our advantage."

Matt Pistorius and Chris Tindall each scored 9 points for the Warriors. Elliott had 5 points and Zack May and Mike Simpson each had 4.

The Warriors took a 9-4 record into Wednesday night's game against Civic Memorial. That game was originally scheduled for Tuesday but postponed due to the weather.

"We are going to take a couple days off to rest up and come out against Civic Memorial and work hard," Elliott said. "We just have to come out in the first quarter and work hard. We aren't working hard, that is our whole problem."

"Now, truthfully, we have a tough part of the season coming right now and we have to rebound back from that and start the new year fresh," VanBuskirk said. "That's what I feel like we have to do. We're not playing real good basketball right now."

"We have to start the new year fresh. We have to get positive. We are very negative right now. Our people aren't making assists. We have to start working hard again. Things aren't going very well today. Good teams rebound from that. Everybody has a bad day and we'll see what we're made of now."

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1997 Lincoln Town Car (4 Avail.)	\$28,995
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1995 Lincoln Town Car (3 Avail.)	\$19,995
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1995 Chevy Lumina Van	\$10,995
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1994 Ford XLT Pick Up	\$12,995

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SPORTS

CLUB HOCKEY

Schedules for local teams in the Mississippi Valley Club Hockey Association. Rinks listed below in parentheses are FH—the U.S. Ice Sports Complex in Farview Heights; EA—East Alton; GC—Granite City; CA—Cahokia.

ALTHOFF CRUSADERS

Overall record (7-3-1)

November
16 vs. Belleville East (FH) W 7-2
22 vs. Alton (EA) L 0-2
28 vs. Roxana (EA) W 10-3
29 vs. O'Fallon (FH) L 2-3

December
5 vs. Belleville West (FH) W 2-0
9 vs. Marquette (EA) W 3-1
13 vs. Collinsville (FH) W 2-3
14 vs. Cahokia (CA) W 4-1
22 vs. Edwardsville (FH) W 1-1
27 vs. Granite City (FH) L 1-3
29 vs. Belleville East (FH) 6:45 p.m.

January
3 vs. Alton (FH) T 1-1
9 vs. Roxana (EA) 4:15 p.m.
10 vs. O'Fallon (FH) 7:30 p.m.
12 vs. Belleville West (FH) 8:15 p.m.
16 vs. Alton-Marquette (FH) 7:45 p.m.
23 vs. Civic Memorial (EA) 2:30 p.m.
24 vs. Collinsville (FH) 7:30 p.m.
30 vs. Cahokia (CA) 5:15 p.m.

February
3 vs. Granite City (FH) 8:15 p.m.

GRANITE CITY WARRIORS

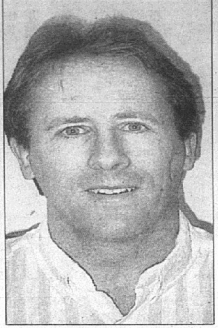
Overall record (6-5-1)

November
18 vs. Alton Marquette (GC) W 5-4
19 vs. Edwardsville (EA) W 4-3
24 vs. Collinsville (FH) L 3-4
28 vs. Cahokia (CA) T 2-2

December
2 vs. O'Fallon (GC) L 3-6
5 vs. Civic Memorial (EA) L 2-4
9 vs. Roxana (GC) W 10-0
10 vs. Belleville West (GC) W 4-2
21 vs. Belleville East (GC) L 2-5
23 vs. Alton (GC) L 1-4
27 vs. Althoff (FH) W 3-1
30 vs. Edwardsville (GC) W 3-2

January
6 vs. Collinsville (GC) 8:15 p.m.
9 vs. Alton (EA) 5:30 p.m.
13 vs. Cahokia (GC) 8:15 p.m.
20 vs. Civic Memorial (GC) 8:15 p.m.
24 vs. Roxana (EA) 5:45 p.m.
27 vs. Belleville East (GC) 8:15 p.m.
30 vs. Belleville West (FH) 4:15 p.m.

February
3 vs. Althoff (FH) 8:15 p.m.
13 vs. Alton Marquette (EA) 5:30 p.m.



Above right, Greg Garland, left, assisted Granite City head coach Mike Garland before earning the helm of the Belleville Althoff program. The two earned statewide coaching honors together at Granite City for the 1994-95 season. Above left, Steve Garland is the head coach for the Belleville West team.

•Garlands

(Continued from Page 1B)

"We are always looking to better our programs but we are willing to help each other out. Of course, there are some secrets that we don't reveal to each other because we have our own little things that we want our kids to do and we don't want our brothers to know how we do that."

Greg Garland

down to Steve and Steve passed it on to me," Greg said. "We would wrestle in the living room. We didn't have a mat or wrestling shoes, so we used high-top tennis shoes when we wrestled and just moved the furniture out and wrestled in between programs, during the commercials. That's kind of how we learned."

Steve Garland is in his sixth year at Belleville West. He spent the previous 10 years at Triad, including seven as head coach. He spent one year (1979-80) at Cahokia as a student-teacher and volunteer assistant under former Comanches coach Russ Baum.

A 1975 graduate of Granite City South High School, Steve wrestled for legendary Warriors coach Bill Schmitt. He went on to wrestle for coach Larry Kristoff at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

"I didn't start wrestling until I was a freshman in high school, but I became a student of the sport and tried to learn all I could," he said. "I was a respectable high school wrestler, but I put everything together my senior year. I was a state qualifier and I was third at junior nationals in freestyle. (Olympic champion) Dan Gable was my idol. He used to work out seven hours a day, so I always felt I had to work harder than other people."

"I only wrestled a couple years at SIUE, but I learned a lot and it was a valuable experience."

It doesn't get as raucous when the Garlands meet as it once did, but the typical fraternal rivalry remains.

It makes for interesting talk at Thanksgiving and Christmas, Mike said. "We don't mess around too much when we are around each other. We're getting up there in years. It hurts too much, we get too sore."

Surrounded by so much excellence, both at home and at school, it's not too surprising coaching seeped into the Garlands' bloodstreams.

"Coaching was something I had in the back of my mind," Steve said. "I coached with the junior high program at Coolidge for one year and then I spent a year at Cahokia. I've had the opportunity with some of the best coaches in the area, guys like 'Red' Schmitt, Larry Kristoff, Russ Baum and John Wehmeier (former head coach and current athletic director at Belleville West). I also have my brothers to share ideas with."

"I teach health education, which goes pretty well with wrestling. You learn a lot of new concepts about diet and nutrition."

And the Garlands prove that the family that stays together stays together.

"It's really neat," Steve said. "Last year, we had four place-winners at state between our three schools. When my team can't win, I'm pulling for their teams."

"When we go head to head, we're really competitive, but I don't worry about it as much as I used to. The whole thing for me as a coach is to teach success. Wrestling requires a lot of discipline and sacrifice. It doesn't get recognized like other sports do, so you do it for self-gratification."

"I look that up to my brothers because they have been involved in the sport a lot longer than I have," Greg said. "It's a thrill to coach against them. I was an assistant here for a long time, and it was a thrill to coach with my brother because I learned a lot. Whenever I have a question or I need to talk to them, they are just a phone call away and they give excellent advice. It works both ways. Sometimes they call me and ask about certain situations."

"It's neat because even though we coach at three different schools, we have three different teams and three different situations and sometimes we help each other out. We are always looking to better our programs but we are willing to help each other out. Of course, there are some secrets that we don't reveal to each other because we have our own little things that we want our kids to do and we don't want our brothers to know how we do that. Other than that, we are pretty open about wrestling."

It is appropriate that come together for the holidays to compete in a tournament named after the man who got them all going.

"He was my coach and my brother's coach," Greg said of "Red" Schmitt. "I highly respect him. He is my hero and he always was. When he comes in the door, I am still in awe because of all of his accomplishments and what he did and feel really privileged to be able to say that I wrestled for him. He was my coach and it was super. It's the greatest feeling in the world."

"We don't mess around too much when we are around each other. We're getting up there in years. It hurts too much..."

Mike Garland

Granite City Soccer Club sets dates for spring registration

The Granite City Soccer Club will conduct its annual spring open registration for boys and girls ages 4 and older at the Brown Recreation Center, located at Franklin and Ponton roads.

Dates are Jan. 23, Jan. 27 and Feb. 1 with registration set for 6:30-8:30 p.m. each day. Registration fee is \$35 per child.

Parents should bring a copy of the child's birth certificate at the time of registration.

For additional information, call the hotline at 878-9000 and leave a message.

Park District leagues
The Granite City Park District is accepting registrations for boys and girls to play youth baseball, T-ball or pony-tail softball in the Park District summer leagues.

The registration is for boys and girls who would like to play in the 1999 Summer Park League who are not currently on a Park District team or have never played in the Park District leagues.

Boys and girls who will be ages 6 to 16 may register.

SPORTS BRIEFS

T-ball is open to ages 6 and 7; youth baseball and ponytail softball is open to ages 8-16.

Anyone interested in coaching or managing a team may visit the Wilson Park office or call Ray Hoffman at 877-3059.

Basketball tournaments

The second annual Eagle Pride Shootout Basketball Tournaments are taking place this winter in Bethalto.

Coaches of teams interested in participating are encouraged to call for entry forms as soon as possible.

Dates for the Eagle Pride Shootout are:

• Feb. 26-28 for fifth- and sixth-grade girls.

• March 5-7 for fifth- and sixth-grade boys.

The entry deadline is Jan. 15.

The entry fee for each tournament is \$50. For more information, call Robyn Dreith at 377-0422.

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The Podobas then



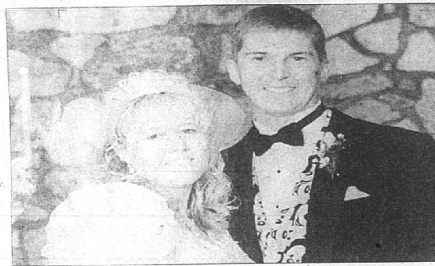
The Podobas now

Podoba 55th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Nick Podoba of Granite City celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on Dec. 23. Nick Podoba and Eve Gresko were married on Dec. 23, 1943, at St. Mary's Greer Catholic Church in St. Louis by the Rev. Basil.

Mr. Podoba is retired from Carondelet Coker in St. Louis. Mrs. Podoba is retired from Central Stats Div. Co. They are parents of two children, Nick M. Podoba of Darien and Neil G. Podoba of Granite City, and they have six grand children.

WEDDING



Mr. and Mrs. Scott Hayhurst

Martin-Hayhurst

Amy Lyn Martin and Scott Michael Hayhurst were married Sept. 19, 1998, at Nameoiki United Methodist Church in Granite City by the Rev. James Hahn.

The bride is the daughter of Tony and Chris Martin of Mitchell. She graduated from Granite City High School and is employed by Illinois Eye Specialists as a billing clerk. The groom is the son of Len and Joyce Hayhurst of Kempner, Texas. He graduated from Freeburg High School and Ranken Technical College in St. Louis. He is employed by Service Assurance as a computer technician.

Jennifer Martin attended her sister as maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Teresa Hayhurst of Copperas Cove, Texas, and Beth Butkovich and Cheryl Smith, both of Granite City. Groomsmen were Walter Holt of Duplo, Davey Lange of Granite City, and Art Hayhurst of Belleville.

The flower girl and ring bearer were Miranda Martin and Tony Bilberry. Following a reception at Granite City Township Hall, the couple honeymooned at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. They now live in Collinsville.

ENGAGEMENTS



Jamie Shipp and Matthew Chenault

Shipp-Chenault

Jamie Shipp, the daughter of Kenneth and Becky Shipp of Granite City, and Matthew Chenault, the son of Dennis Chenault and DaOnne Chenault of Granite City, have announced their engagement.

Shipp is a 1994 graduate of Granite City High School. She is employed by Chestnut Health Systems in Granite City.

Chenault is a 1988 graduate of Granite City High School and a 1993 graduate of Western Illinois University with a BS in geology. He is currently attending Logan College of Chiropractic. They are planning a Aug. 14, 1999, wedding.

ANNIVERSARY

Wells 50th anniversary

Former Metro-East residents Francis "Tink" and Gladys (Earnest) Wells celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 23.

They were married Nov. 23, 1943, in St. Charles. He is retired from Granite City Steel and she is a homemaker. They have three sons, Lee and Lon Wells, both of Troy, and Lou Wells of Chatham; two daughters, Lynn Dawkins of Springfield, and the late Lori McMahon; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

ENGAGEMENT

Mann-Null

Melinda Mann, the daughter of William and Sandra Mann of Granite City, and Jon Null, the son of Jon Sr. and Ellnor Null of Granite City, have announced their engagement.

Mann is a graduate of Belleville Area College with a degree in nursing. She is a registered nurse at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City.

Null is a graduate of St. Louis Community College with a degree in advertising design-commercial art. He works as an art dealer at Master Marketing in St. Louis.

They are planning a June 5, 1999, wedding at St. John's United Church of Christ in Granite City.

Eagles Auxiliary holds bi-monthly meeting

Nina Jackson, Granite City Eagles 1126 Auxiliary President, opened a recent bi-monthly meeting of the club and greeted members. A roll call of officers was taken and the outside guard, inside guard, and two trustees were absent.

Jeanie Burton, Sue Allen, Helen Mih, Sharon Case filled the vacancies. The secretary, Vincine Zerlin, read the minutes from the previous meeting and they were approved.

Three applications for membership were read, and one new candidate was initiated. Cindy Bolin. The next club initiation will be held at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 12 and also during state officers weekend at 2 p.m. Jan. 16.

Correspondence was read from the Max Baer Heart Fund, Robert W. Hanson, Diabetes Chairman, explaining the grant options available to benefit community programs, such as drug awareness, CPR classes and other programs.

Verna Funke sent a letter

inquiring of Granite City Eagles Auxiliary would be interested in hosting a visit of the Grand Madam President, Doris Bateson, and it was approved to have a dinner and social hour in her honor March 11 at the Eagles Home, 2553 Madison Ave.

Juanita Blevins, a long-time member who is now living with her children, would enjoy a card or a letter, at 2725 Sunset Drive, Granite City.

The Stretator Auxiliary invited all to attend their state officers weekend, to be held on Jan. 8 and 9.

Diane Tabbe, administrator of the Alton Catholic Children's Home, sent her thank-yous for our recent Christmas presents to the home and to the 40 residents housed there. The children sent homemade cards and a poster of the home, staff and residents. These cards were read and much happiness arrived from the pleasure. Gifts included a TV, ping-pong table, Sony PlayStation, and gift certificates.

A donation was made to facilitate the new kitchen the children's home needed to educate the residents how to cook and care for their own needs. A grant will be applied for the further help them in their financial need for this improvement.

Sharon Case and Flo Strokes reported on the Good Samaritan Home in Granite City, the purposes, and qualifications of residents. This home houses women and children who are without a home. They educate the women and prepare them to live on their own, work, and raise their families.

Get-well cards sent to Laverne Malzynski, Merle Williams and Chris Von Nida. Excuses of absence were read for Mary Church, Laverne (who is back in Christian Hospital Northeast) and Ann Pates.

Eleven Ederle, Bingo chairman, gave her report and reported that the Beanie Baby certificates has been honored, along with the trip to Branson

and Tunica, Miss. A \$25 donation will be made to Wood River Food Pantry from the district. Joanna announced plans for the state officers weekend to be held in Granite City on Jan. 15-17, with tournaments, cakewalks, grab bags, matchbooks and other games.

Elaine announced that Shiloh will host the next district meeting at 2 p.m. Feb. 21. They are striving for a joint district meeting with the Aerle at each of the following meetings.

A social hour and refreshments were enjoyed by the above and the following: Suzie Rogers, Barbara Modrusie, Angie Buehler, Joanna Spencer, Martha Simpeon, Millie Weatherford, Betty Taylor, Barbara Land, Hilda Molten, Rose Plachochinski, Liz Moore, Tracy Krug, and Tammy Cox.

Prizes were won by Helen Mih and Catherine Kostoff.

More winter weather could be on the way, Abell says

By Glen Sparks
Staff writer

Winter's just getting started. After a short break, St. Louis could be in for more winter weather later this week. Some forecasts call for warmer temperatures, but a chance of snow by Friday.

Predicting the weather, of course, can be as exact as predicting the stock market.

"It could be snow, or it could be rain or sleet (on Friday)," said Ben Abell, a meteorologist for almost 40 years and a professor at Saint Louis University.

"Temperatures should be in the 31-32-33 degree range."

Residents still are recovering from an Arctic blast that dumped almost eight inches of snow and freezing rain on the St. Louis area on New Year's weekend.

Temperatures plummeted after the storm ended. The high on Sunday was only 18. Predictions were for even colder temperatures on Monday with dangerous wind-chill factors.

Abell said the high would be

about 25 degrees Tuesday and in the lower 30s Wednesday and Thursday. That's about average, he said. Don't expect anything balmy.

As long as all the snow remains on the ground to reflect the sun, that should keep down temperatures," Abell said.

He said the area's first winter storm of 1999 started pretty much as expected. Most forecasters said six to 12 inches of snow would fall on St. Louis.

"I think we did a pretty good job," Abell said.

This storm did offer a couple of twists. For one, the amount of sleet kept snow amounts from reaching a foot or more. It also surprised Abell that the storm walloped Chicago so hard. Almost two feet of snow pelted O'Hare International Airport.

Abell said the storm veered a bit farther to the north than anticipated.

Besides feeling the effects of the same blast that blanketed St. Louis, Chicagoans were hit

(B) Abell said forecasters can offer accurate predictions of the weather about 24 hours in advance. After that, there gets to be more and more guesswork.

with "lake effect" snow, a phenomenon that strikes as cold air travels over warmer water. "They just got dumped on," Abell said.

Meteorologists must weigh a number of variables while tracking a storm.

Think about it. Forecasters in St. Louis are attempting to make predictions on storms that are forming in the Pacific Ocean or pelting western Canada, thousands of miles from home.

Storms can go right, left, dissipate or gather strength.

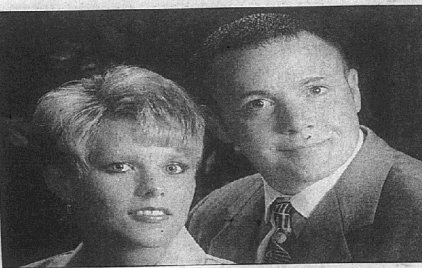
Long-range forecasting is

getting more and more accurate because more information is available," Abell said. He studies radar reports and a half-dozen satellite maps.

"There are some maps I like more than others," he said. "Sometimes, I'll look at two and split the difference."

Abell said forecasters can offer accurate predictions of the weather about 24 hours in advance. After that, there gets to be more and more guesswork.

"I don't know if that day will ever come," he said.



Karey Spihlman and Sean Bain

Spihlman-Bain

Karey L. Spihlman, the daughter of Gerald and Judith Spihlman of St. Rose, and Sean V. Bain, the son of Candance and Larry Hipkins of Collinsville and Edward Bain of Granite City, have announced their engagement.

Spihlman is a 1990 graduate of Mater Dei High School in Breese and a 1991 graduate of Hickey Business School. She is employed as a sales coordinator with ABC National TV Sales Inc. in St. Louis.

Bain is a 1990 graduate of Granite City Senior High School. He served with the U.S. Air Force for six years and now is employed as a nursing coordinator with StarMed Health Personnel in St. Peters, Mo. The couple lives in Troy and is planning an April 17 wedding.

Council honors 12 Girl Scouts

The River Bluffs Girl Scout Council is pleased to announce 12 recipients of the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can receive.

This year's recipients are: Kate Botko and Mary Sambor of Glen Carbon; Katherine Dressler of Marissa; Sophia Mallett and Gabi Pineda of Edwardsville; Mullen Mullen of Worden; Alyx Perez of Belleville; Lindsay Frenn of Maryville; Mistelle Redmond and Susan Schachner of O'Fallon; Elizabeth Skaer of New Athens; and Jessica Stouts of Collinsville.

The Girl Scout Gold Award recognizes a Senior Girl Scout's commitment to excellence as she develops skills and values to meet present and future challenges in her life.

To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a Senior Girl Scout must design and carry out a plan of activities covering community service, career exploration, specialized interest projects, and leadership skills.

River Bluffs Girl Scout Council is a not-for-profit, United Way-supported organization serving approximately 10,000 girls and 2,500 volunteers in a five-and-a-half county jurisdiction.